



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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December 17, 1998

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *aa*

RE: Site Inspection, San Rafael Energy, Inc., Four Corners Mine, M/015/014, Emery County, Utah

Date of Inspection: October 9, 1998
Time of Inspection: 1245 - 1520
Conditions: Sunny, warm, clear skies and gnats
Participants: Tony Gallegos, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection: To examine the reclaimed mine site and shaft closures in consideration of reclamation release

The features described in the Four Corners inspection were identified using an enlarged photocopy of the Jessie's Twist quad map, showing section 22, T21S, R14E. Features examined during this inspection were marked on this map with numbers. Due to the large number of mining related disturbances in this area there was some uncertainty regarding proper identification and location of those disturbances associated with this permit.

The first area examined is a shaft at the area east of the main road. This shaft was identified as #1 on the quad map. Features at the shaft site included a stump of a power pole cut off above ground level and a pile of material with a protruding railroad tie and piece of cable. This pile was believed to be the backfilled shaft. Photos of this shaft were taken looking north and south over the site.

The next area examined was the shaft located to the northeast of the first shaft visited. It was difficult to determine the location of shaft #2 due to the large number of mining related disturbances in the area. Photographs were taken looking over a waste pile towards the shaft #1 site with several disturbances in between. The exact location of the backfilled shaft was unknown, however, no signs of shaft subsidence or settling was visible at the various mounds of material in this area.

The next area examined was the shaft and adit site indicated by #3 on the map. The shaft has an old wooden collar with two compartments. Power poles from the location of the Snow Mine appear to end near the wooden shaft collar. Cool air was exhausting from the shaft. Photographs were taken of this site looking to the north, west and south. Photos looking toward the south include the power pole on the left and a pile in the right foreground. Further examination of the area revealed a

cave-in to the surface or an old adit. This mine opening is located directly west of the shaft #3 site. A photo of this area looking toward the east shows the mine opening and the wooden shaft collar.

The next area examined was the adit area marked as #4 on the map. A large rock pile in this area appeared to match the general direction and location of the adits shown on the map. Near this rock pile was a small concrete footer to the east. A photograph of this rock pile includes the concrete footer. If this rock pile is the backfilled adits the fill material is currently stable.

The next area examined was the shaft and prospect area indicated as site #5 on the map. The exact location of this shaft could not be determined due to the large number of mining disturbances in this area.

The next area examined was the shaft and adit indicated as #6 on the map. The suspect area for this shaft and adit is north of an old sign reading "DEDE CRE 06+." There is also another suspect area west of this sign. Photographs of this area include the sign. There was a sign near a dump located to the east of this first sign. The sign near this dump reads "DEDE LEACH 03-05." The exact location of this shaft and adit could not be determined.

The next area examined was indicated as adit #7 on the map. In this area is a large ramping dump which is flat on the top. This dump is located on the north side of what is believed to be adit #7. Adit #7 is an open decline in a trench with fencing around it. Photographs were taken looking at adit #7. In the general vicinity is a powder magazine(?) made of logs. This structure was empty except for some minor trash and an open 55-gallon can. The direction of adit #7 is an azimuth of 315°. The direction of the adit shown on the quad map does not match this direction, which may mean this is the wrong adit. A GPS unit was used to take a coordinate point at the mouth of adit #7. The point is labeled as "4C-AD7." The uncorrected location of this point in latitude and longitude was north 38° 58' 36.81" west 110° 22' 21.58". **The corrected location point 4C-AD7 in UTM coordinates was East 554,408.16148 North 4,314,178.44630.**

The next area examined was the shaft and adit combination indicated as #8 on the map. Shaft #8 is a fenced shaft near the existing county road with a BLM sign warning of mine hazards in the area. Shaft #8 has a trench dug around it to divert surface runoff from draining into the shaft backfill. Photographs of shaft #8 were taken from several directions. The backfill at shaft #8 shows some signs of settling with a crack around portions of the perimeter and a small depression/opening forming.

The next area examined was indicated as adit #9 on the map. The suspect area included several regraded waste material piles. From the vegetation growing on these areas the regrading was probably within recent years. There were no visible signs of the adit which is shown on the map as being in this area.

The next area examined was indicated as shaft #10 on the map. This site is located to the east of the main county road running through the area. The suspect site includes a concrete collar around

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the shaft with a metal grate secured over the shaft opening. A photograph was taken of the grate and piping coming out of the shaft.

The next area examined was indicated as adit #11 on the map. This adit is a decline in a trench with fencing around it. Chain-link fencing is across the adit mouth to prevent entry. A portion of the chain link fencing has been cut to allow entry into the underground workings. A photo of this site shows the current status of the adit closure.

The next area examined was called the Dino Portals. These two mine openings are shown on the adjacent Spotted Wolf quad map. The first mine adit examined heads north. A photograph shows this portal under a sandstone ledge which is partially caved. The opening is fenced with two-strand barbwire fencing on metal posts. In the photo you will notice a drill steel stuck in the ground on the right near the fencing.

The second mine opening examined in the Dino Portals area was an adit heading south. This adit is excavated in solid sandstone rock with a cable fence around the perimeter. The portal itself is fenced at this time. A photograph was taken of this site to document the current status.

The next area examined was the shaft indicated as #12 on the map. This shaft has wooden planks and a skip still located in the shaft. The skip itself is acting as the shaft closure. The adit associated with shaft #12 was partially filled with silted and partially caved. Photographs were taken of the shaft and adit to document their current status.

In conclusion, the Division will need to review the mine file and maps, and coordinate with the BLM regarding release of these sites. A Division letter responding to the request for reclamation release will need to be sent to the operator.

jb
Attachment: photo copy of Jesse's Twist quad map showing numbered locations
cc: Gary Jacobson, San Rafael Energy
Dean Nyffeler, BLM Price FO
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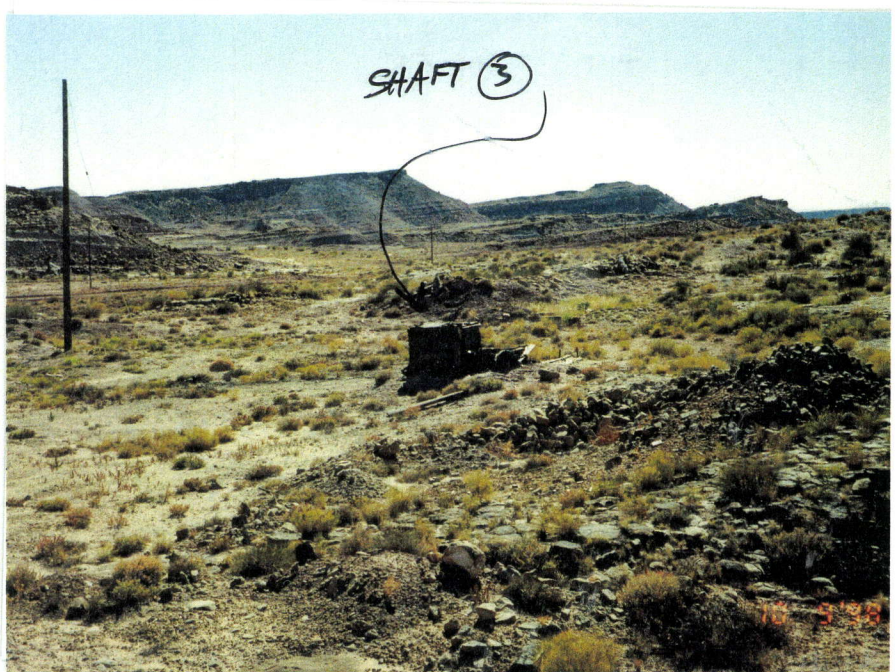
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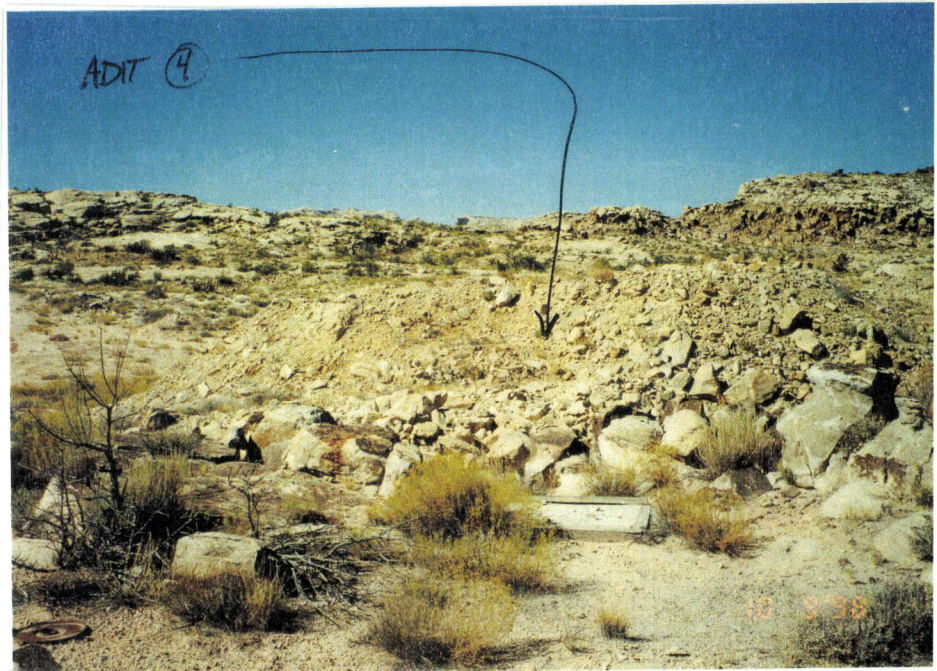
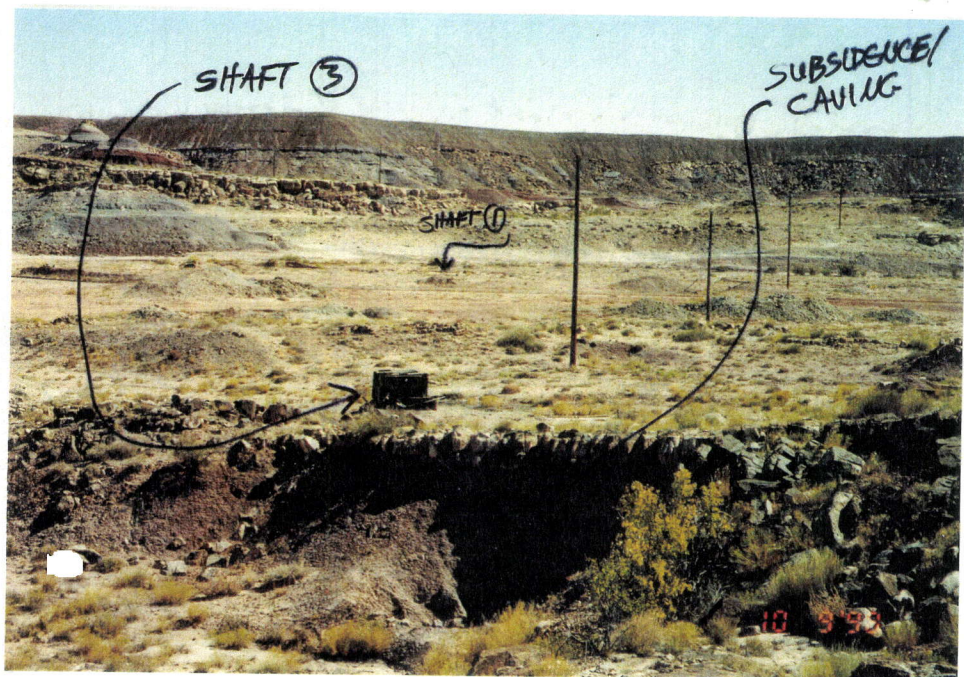
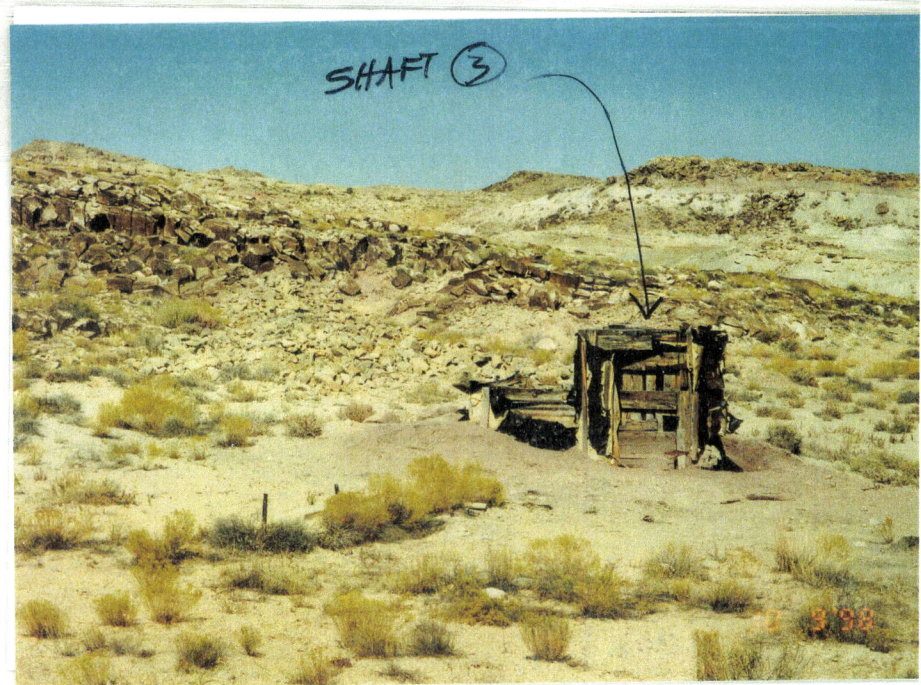
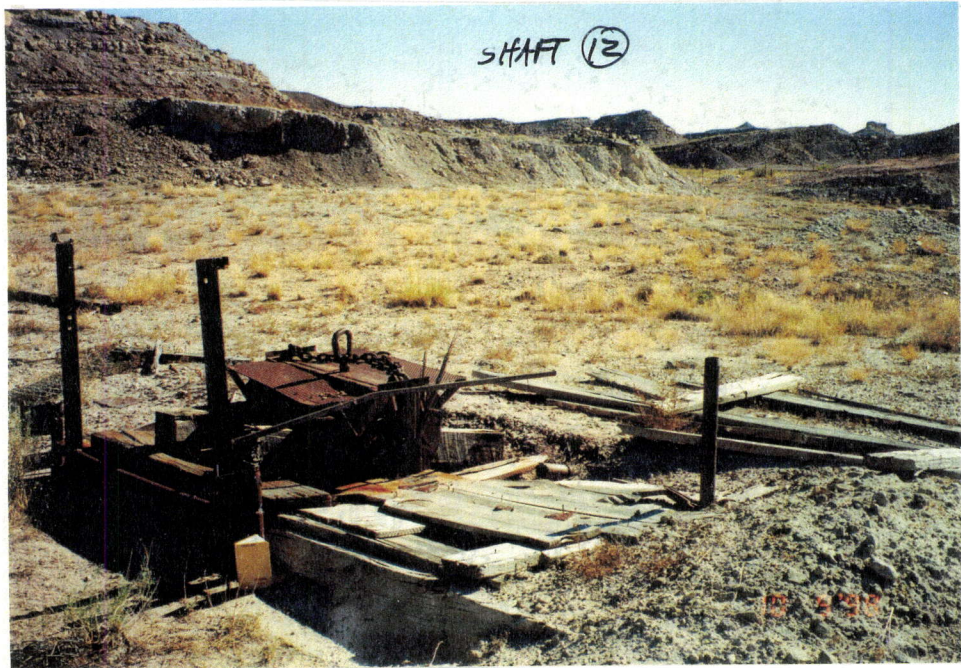
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FOUR CORNERS





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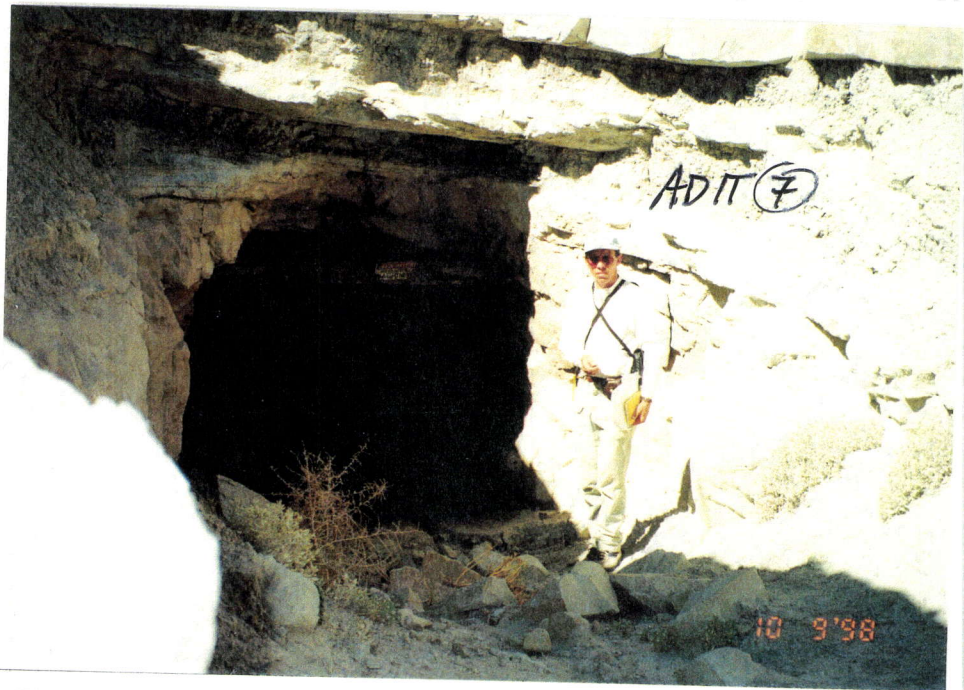
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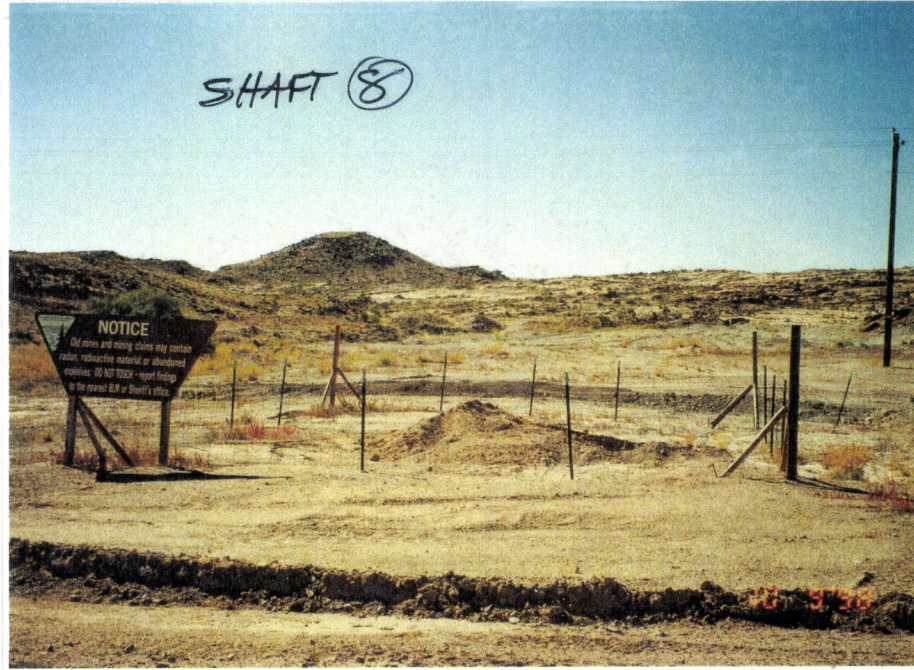
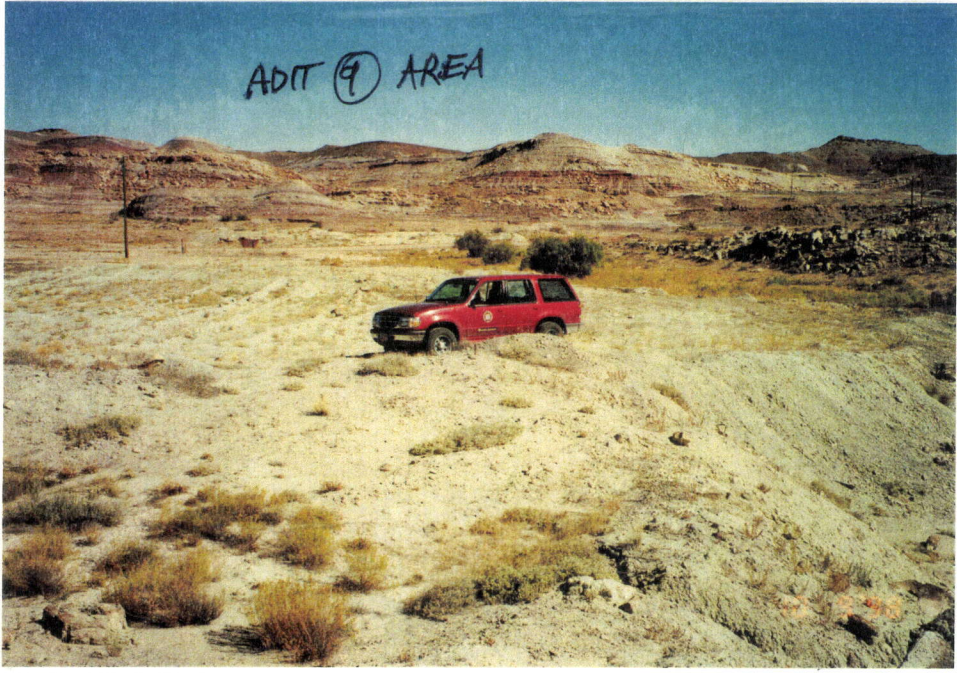
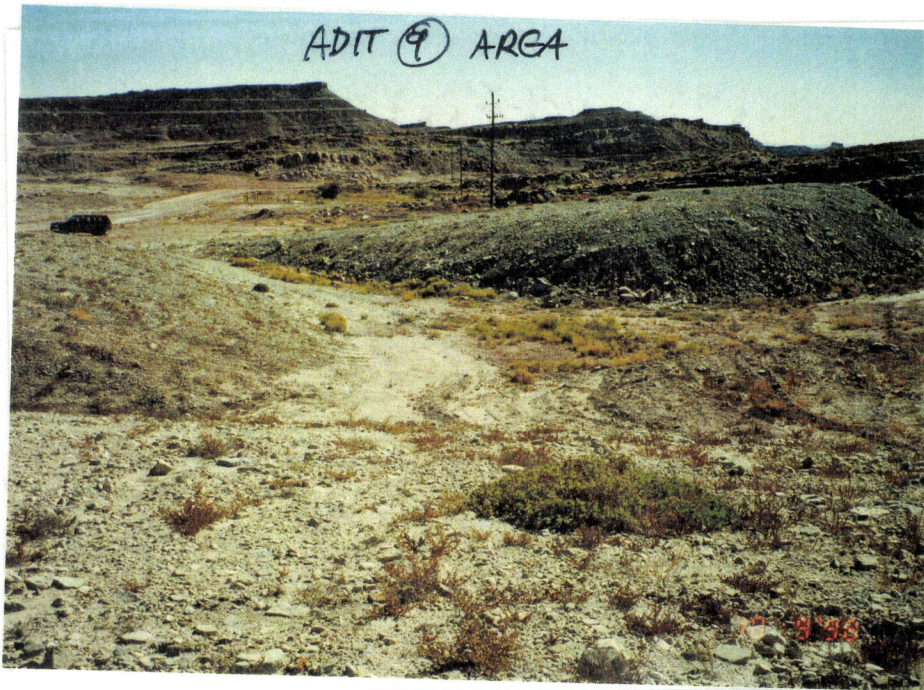
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2 RECLAIMED AREA WHERE 2 BLDGS WERE LOCATED



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2 BACKFILLED ADIT SITE

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2 BACKFILLED ADIT SITE